

Message Text

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45

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

SWF-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 OIC-02 /119 W
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R 161341Z DEC 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9665

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, EEC, LE

SUBJECT: GATT WP ON EC-LEBANON AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 268829

1. DURING DEC 11-13 GATT WORKING PARTY ON EC-LEBANON AGREEMENT, EC (LUYTEN) SAID ARRANGEMENT WAS MADE BY OLD EC OF 6 IN 1972 TO KEEP UP TRADITIONAL LINKS WITH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES AND CONSTITUTES INTERIM AGREEMENT AS PROVIDED BY GATT ART. XXIV. LEBANON (AMB. BANNA) SAID THIS SIMILAR TO OTHER EC AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES IN MEDITERRANEAN.

2. US (SPRUCE) SAID AGREEMENT FAILED CONFORM TO ART. XXIV REQUIREMENT EITHER FOR FREE TRADE AREA OR INTERIM AGREEMENT AND CITED SPECIFIC SHORTCOMINGS RE GATT ARTICLE XXIV(5)C AND (8)B AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS PRESENTED IN REFTEL. JAPAN, CANADA SUPPORTED US VIEW. EGYPT, SPAIN,
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SWEDEN SUPPORTED EC AND LEBANON IN ASSERTING THAT

AGREEMENT WAS A GATT-COMPATIBLE INTERIM AGREEMENT.

3. EC SAID ART. XXIV (5)C MEANT PLAN AND SCHEDULE
"WITHIN REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME" REFERRED ONLY TO
INTERIM AGREEMENT. US SAID IT REFERRED TO SCHEDULE
FOR FORMULATION OF FTA OR CUSTOMS UNION AND THAT ALL
ONE HAD TO DO WAS READ WORDING OF PARA (5)C TO
DISCOVER THIS. EXCEPT FOR TIRESOME EXCHANGE ON
THE ALREADY WELL-ESTABLISHED DIFFERENCE IS INTER-
PRETATION DURING REPORT SESSION, MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN
LOW-KEY ATMOSPHERE. WP CONCLUDED THAT SINCE SOME DELS
FELT GATT COMPATIBILITY COULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED AT
THIS TIME, NO CONSENSUS COULD BE REACHED.DALE

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Message Attributes

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